

The Honorable Michael K. Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to urge you to OPPOSE the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. Although I am not a DIRECTV customer, I believe the merger will decrease video and broadband choices for consumers like me because the combined company will provide increased competition to cable companies.

The combined company will be a much stronger without competition from cable operators by being able to offer me local TV channels via satellite in my market area, which I currently do not receive.

Broadband access to the Internet is only available to me at this time via Hughes. If the merger is approved, the new company will be able to provide me with affordable high-speed Internet access via satellite along with the other 40 million American households who do not have affordable high-speed Internet access now, but there will be no competition - Therefore no price controls.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Francis Dingley  
PO Box 894  
Mont Belvieu, TX 77580